

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
DALLAS DIVISION

DENNIS STEVEN KULIKOWSKI,

Petitioner,

V.

RICK THALER, Director,
Texas Department of Criminal Justice,
Correctional Institutions Division,

Respondent.

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Civil Action No. **3:10-CV-640-L**

ORDER

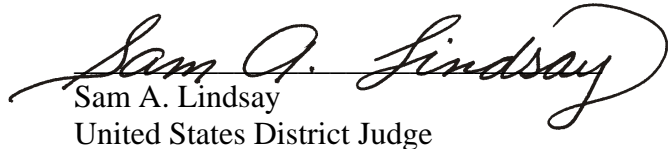
Before the court is Petitioner Dennis Steven Kulikowski's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, filed April 1, 2010. The petition was referred to United States Magistrate Judge Jeff Kaplan, who filed Findings and Recommendation of the United States Magistrate Judge (the "Report") on April 23, 2010. Petitioner has filed no objections to the Report.

This is a habeas petition filed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. The magistrate judge found that Petitioner has failed to exhaust his state court remedies, and that his petition must therefore be dismissed. The record reflects that Petitioner has not presented any of his claims to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals in a state habeas application before pursuing federal relief.

After having reviewed the petition, file, record, and the Report in this case, the court determines that the magistrate judge's findings and conclusions are correct. They are therefore **accepted** as those of the court. The court **dismisses without prejudice** the writ of habeas corpus, because Petitioner has failed to exhaust his state court remedies.

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 22(b), Rule 11(a) of the Rules Governing §§ 2254 and 2255 proceedings, and 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c), the court **denies** a certificate of appealability.* The court determines that Petitioner has failed to show: (1) that reasonable jurists would find this court's "assessment of the constitutional claims debatable or wrong;" or (2) that reasonable jurists would find "it debatable whether the petition states a valid claim of the denial of a constitutional right" and "debatable whether [this court] was correct in its procedural ruling." *Slack v. McDaniel*, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000). In support of this determination, the court accepts and incorporates by reference the magistrate judge's report filed in this case. In the event that Petitioner files a notice of appeal, he must pay the \$455 appellate filing fee or submit a motion to proceed *in forma pauperis* ("IFP"), unless he has been granted IFP status by the district court.

It is so ordered this 14th day of May, 2010.


Sam A. Lindsay
United States District Judge

*Rule 11 of the Rules Governing §§ 2254 and 2255 Cases provides as follows:

(a) **Certificate of Appealability.** The district court must issue or deny a certificate of appealability when it enters a final order adverse to the applicant. Before entering the final order, the court may direct the parties to submit arguments on whether a certificate should issue. If the court issues a certificate, the court must state the specific issue or issues that satisfy the showing required by 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2). If the court denies a certificate, the parties may not appeal the denial but may seek a certificate from the court of appeals under Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 22. A motion to reconsider a denial does not extend the time to appeal.

(b) **Time to Appeal.** Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 4(a) governs the time to appeal an order entered under these rules. A timely notice of appeal must be filed even if the district court issues a certificate of appealability.